

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1-82. (Canceled)

83. (Previously presented) A method for inhibiting immunoglobulin production comprising contacting T-cells with an effective amount of an antibody that binds an antigen that:

- (a) is present on activated but not resting T-cells;
- (b) has the same molecular weight as a protein precipitated by a CD40-immunoglobulin fusion protein (CD40-Ig), the CD40-Ig comprising the extracellular domain of a CD40 protein having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 and an extracellular domain at the site of fusion having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:3; and
- (c) is pre-cleared by precipitation with the CD40-Ig;

wherein the antibody blocks binding of the CD40-Ig to activated T-cells and inhibits T-cell induction of B-cell activation.

84. (Previously presented) A method for inhibiting activation of B-cells comprising contacting T-cells with an effective amount of an antibody that binds an antigen that:

- (a) is present on activated but not resting T-cells;
- (b) has the same molecular weight as a protein precipitated by a CD40-immunoglobulin fusion protein (CD40-Ig), the CD40-Ig comprising the extracellular domain of a CD40 protein having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 and an extracellular domain at the site of fusion having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:3; and
- (c) is pre-cleared by precipitation with the CD40-Ig;

wherein the antibody blocks binding of the CD40-Ig to activated T-cells and inhibits T-cell induction of B-cell activation.

85. (Previously presented) A method for inhibiting immunoglobulin production in an animal comprising the step of administering to the animal an effective amount of an antibody that binds an antigen that:

(a) is present on activated but not resting T-cells;
(b) has the same molecular weight as a protein precipitated by a CD40-immunoglobulin fusion protein (CD40-Ig), the CD40-Ig comprising the extracellular domain of a CD40 protein having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 and an extracellular domain at the site of fusion having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:3; and

(c) is pre-cleared by precipitation with the CD40-Ig;

wherein the antibody blocks binding of the CD40-Ig to activated T-cells and inhibits T-cell induction of B-cell activation.

86. (Previously presented) A method for inhibiting activation of B-cells in an animal comprising administering to the animal an effective amount of an antibody that binds an antigen that:

(a) is present on activated but not resting T-cells;
(b) has the same molecular weight as a protein precipitated by a CD40-immunoglobulin fusion protein (CD40-Ig), the CD40-Ig comprising the extracellular domain of a CD40 protein having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 and an extracellular domain at the site of fusion having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:3; and

(c) is pre-cleared by precipitation with the CD40-Ig;

wherein the antibody blocks binding of the CD40-Ig to activated T-cells and inhibits T-cell induction of B-cell activation.

87-89. (Canceled)

90. (Currently amended) The method of any of according to claims 85 and or 86, wherein the animal is a mouse.

91. (Previously presented) A method for treating an autoimmune condition in an animal comprising administering to the animal an effective amount of an antibody that binds an antigen that:

- (a) is present on activated but not resting T-cells;
- (b) has the same molecular weight as a protein precipitated by a CD40-immunoglobulin fusion protein (CD40-Ig), the CD40-Ig comprising the extracellular domain of a CD40 protein having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 and an extracellular domain at the site of fusion having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:3; and
- (c) is pre-cleared by precipitation with the CD40-Ig;
wherein the antibody blocks binding of the CD40-Ig to activated T-cells and inhibits T-cell induction of B-cell activation.

92. (Previously presented) The method of claim 91, wherein the antibody is a monoclonal antibody.

93. (Previously presented) The method of claim 91, wherein the antibody is a chimeric antibody.

94. (Previously presented) The method of claim 91, wherein the antibody is a human monoclonal antibody.